

CLAIMS

1. A portable electronic device having a first part carrying a first user interface and a second part carrying a second user interface, the first and second parts being relatively moveable from a closed configuration to an open configuration the first part being relatively moveable with respect to a connecting element about a first axis of rotation and the connecting element being relatively moveable with respect to the second part about a second axis of rotation so that the first part is able to rotate about the first axis of rotation and move about the second axis of rotation.
2. A portable electronic device according to claim 1 wherein the first part is able to move both translationally and rotationally with respect to the second part.
3. A portable electronic device according to claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the one of the rotational axes is able to move about the other of the rotational axes.
4. A portable electronic device according to any preceding claim wherein the first part is a front part and the first user interface comprises a display.
5. A portable electronic device according to any preceding claim wherein the second part is a back part and the second user interface comprises a keypad.
6. A portable electronic device according to any preceding claim wherein the first user interface and the second user interface are able to move into a preferred optimum configuration in which they are both visible to, and available for use by, a user at the same time.
7. A portable electronic device according to any preceding claim wherein the first part and the second part are connected by at least one pair of connecting elements.

8. A portable electronic device according to claim 7 wherein at least some of the connecting elements are in the form of a first straight portion connected to a second straight portion at an elbow region.

5 9. A portable electronic device according to claim 7 or claim 8 wherein the connecting elements are connected at connection points on the first part and the second part.

10 10. A portable electronic device according to claim 9 wherein the or each pair of connecting elements are connected on a common side of the first part and the second part and the connection points on the parts are separated by different amounts.

15 11. A portable electronic device according to claim 10 wherein having a difference in the separation of their connection points provides the first part with a greater rotational movement during a later stage of its movement relative to the second part.

20 12. A portable electronic device according to any of claims 7 to 11 wherein one pair of connecting elements is on a first side of the first part and the second part and another pair of connecting elements is on a second opposing side of the first and second parts.

25 13. A portable electronic device according to any of claims 7 to 12 wherein the distances between the connection points for the connecting elements in each pair are different.

30 14. A portable electronic device according to claim 13 wherein having a difference in the lengths of the connecting elements provides the first part with a greater rotational movement during a later stage of the movement of the first part relative to the second part.

15. A portable electronic device according to any preceding claim wherein in moving from the closed configuration to the open configuration, the first part and the second part remain substantially parallel during an initial stage of their relative movement.

5

16. A portable electronic device according to any preceding claim selected from a group consisting of a laptop, palmtop, an electronic notebook, a mobile telephone, a personal organiser and a personal digital assistant.

10 17. A portable electronic device according to any preceding claim which is in a wrist wearable form.

FOOTNOTES